

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO.46
MAY \$1.50

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

APPROVED
BY THE
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AUTHORITY

46977

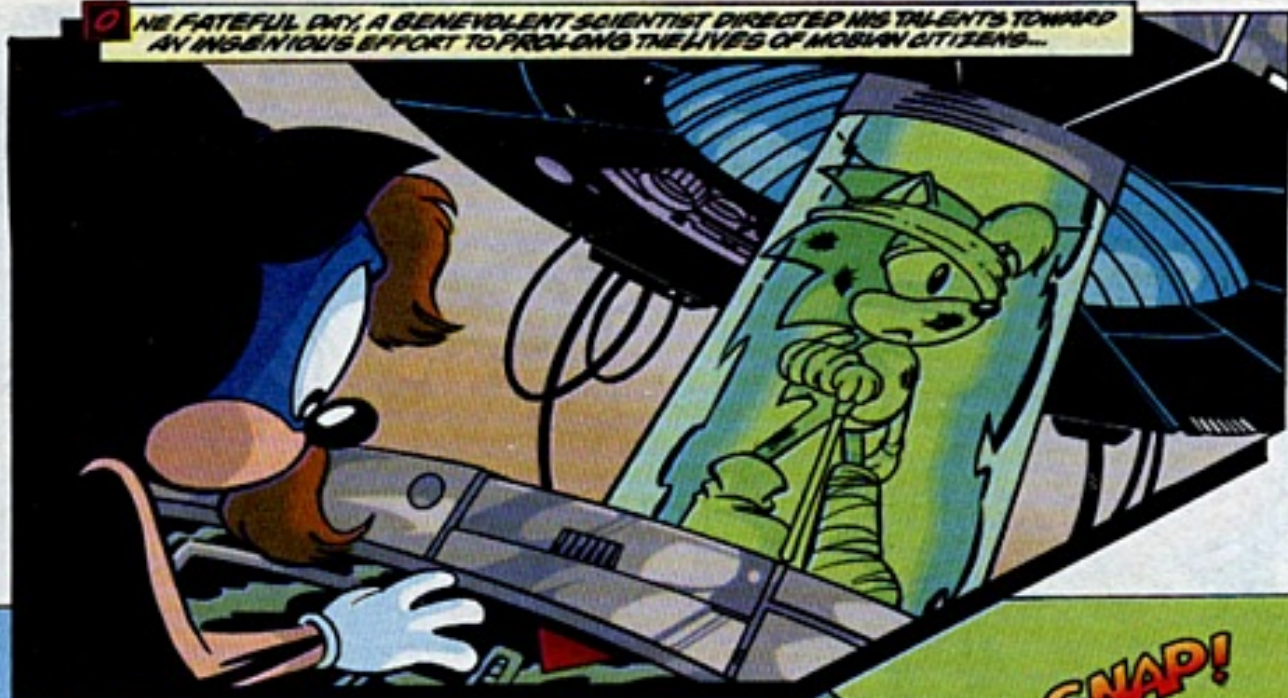


Turtlewing
Productions

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SPAZ
HARUD

ON THE FATEFUL DAY, A BENEVOLENT SCIENTIST DIRECTED HIS TALENTS TOWARD AN INGENUOUS EFFORT TO PROLONG THE LIVES OF MOBIAN CITIZENS...



...AND IN DOING SO, INADVERTENTLY CREATED AN INSTRUMENT OF DOMINATION, USED AS PART OF A SHEEPING TIDE OF TYRANNY, SIGNALING THE DOWNFALL OF PLANET MOBIUS AND ITS KINGDOM OF AGORN!

FOR THE LOVE OF MOBIUS-- NO!!!

THE ROBOTICIZATION PROCESS WORKED ALL TOO WELL--NOW MY BROTHER IS JUST A MINDLESS MACHINE!

SNAP!

BREAK

SHATTER

A COUNTDOWN TO ARMAGEDDON

PART ONE

SCRIPT: KEN PENDERS & KENT TAYLOR	PENCILS: NELSON ORTEGA	INKS: BRIAN THOMAS	LETTERING: VICKIE WILLIAMS
COLORING: BARRY GROSSMAN	EDITOR: J. FREDDY GABRIE	MANAGING EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER

THAT IS WAY FAST
COOL, UNCLE CHUCK!
HOW YA DOING IT?

WHERE'S THE
POPCORN?

WELL, SONIC, WHAT KIND OF SPY WOULD
I BE IF I DIDN'T INSTALL THE NEWEST
DIGITAL VIDEO TECHNOLOGY DIRECTLY
INTO MY OPTIC SENSORS?!

NOT ONLY CAN I
RECORD WHAT I SEE,
BUT I CAN ALSO PLAY
BACK ANY PRE-RECORDED
VIDEO!

YEAH,
BUT DO YOU
HAVE A DISH
ANTENNAE WITH
A HUNDRED MOVIE
STATIONS?!

DULCY!!

NOT QUITE,
HOWEVER—

--RETRIEVED FROM
ROBOTROPOLIS BY MY SPY
NETWORK; THIS VIDEO IS
A BY-PRODUCT OF A SECRET
SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM
USED IN THE FORMER
ROYAL PALACE--

"--AND PROVIDES PROOF THAT
ROBOTNIK, IN HIS FORMER
IDENTITY AS WARLORD
JULIAN, SABOTAGED MY
ORIGINAL ROBOTICIZER!"

"IT WAS HIS INTERVENTION
THAT TRANSFORMED A
TOOL OF MEDICINE INTO A
WEAPON OF WAR."

AND EXCEPT FOR A
FEW TIMES WHEN WE WERE
LUCKY*, I DON'T THINK
WE'LL EVER BE ABLE TO
DEROBOTICIZE ALL
THOSE POOR SOULS!

SOME
HUMANITARIAN
I AM!

* CHECK OUT
SONIC #57-
JUSTIN.

IT'S *NOT*
YOUR
FAULT!

DON'T *DESPAIR*! I HAVE AN IDEA--
WHILE ROTOR LOOKS AFTER FATHER,
THIS WOULD BE A PERFECT TIME
FOR ONE OF MY SPECIAL MILITARY
RETREATS!



AS TWILIGHT DESCENDS,
PRINCESS SALLY ATTEMPTS
TO USE THE PICTURESQUE
GREAT FOREST AS A
SERENE BACKDROP TO
RENEW HER TROOPS'
RESOLVE...

...BUT AS THE CAMPFIRE
PON-HON TAKES PLACE...

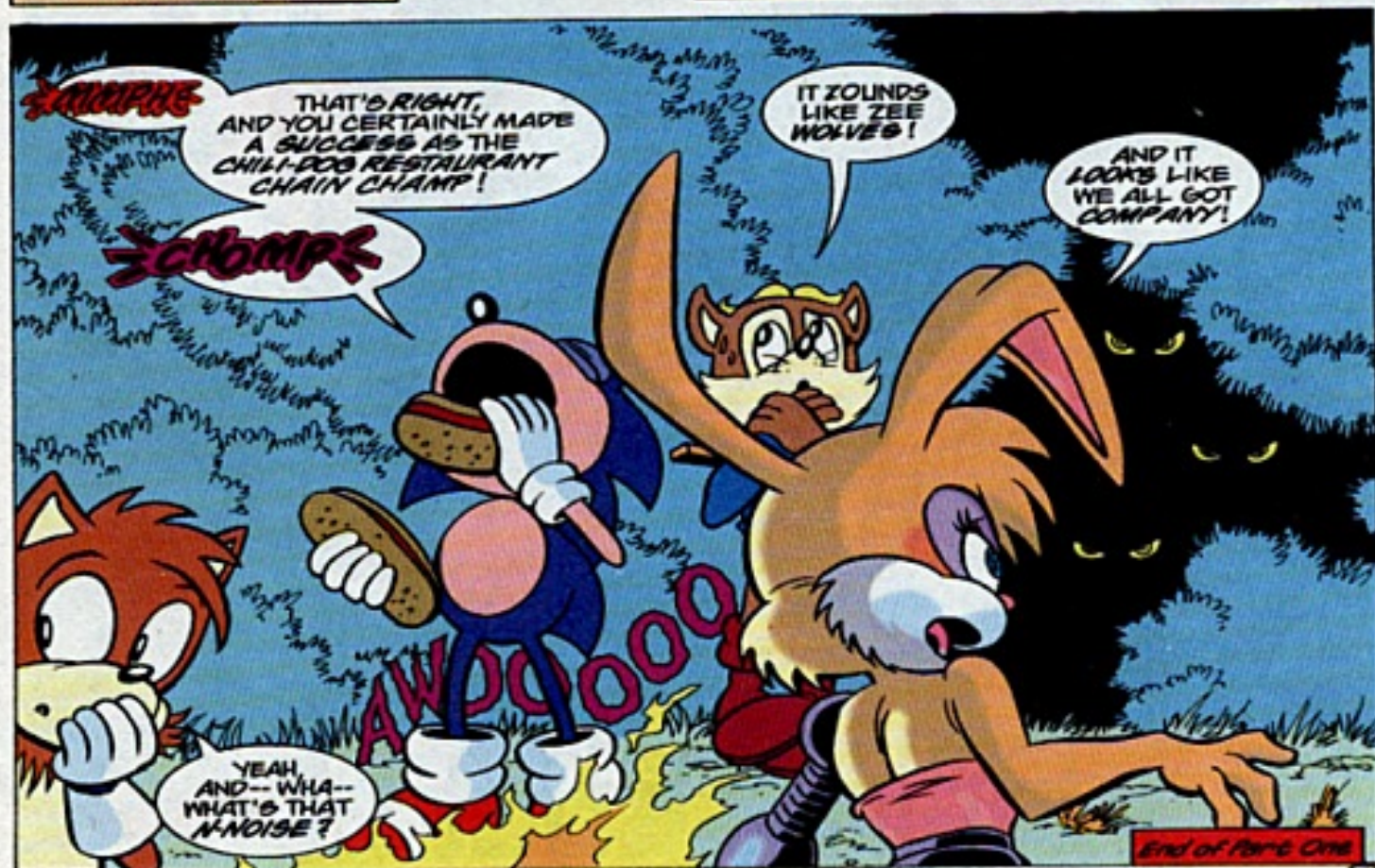
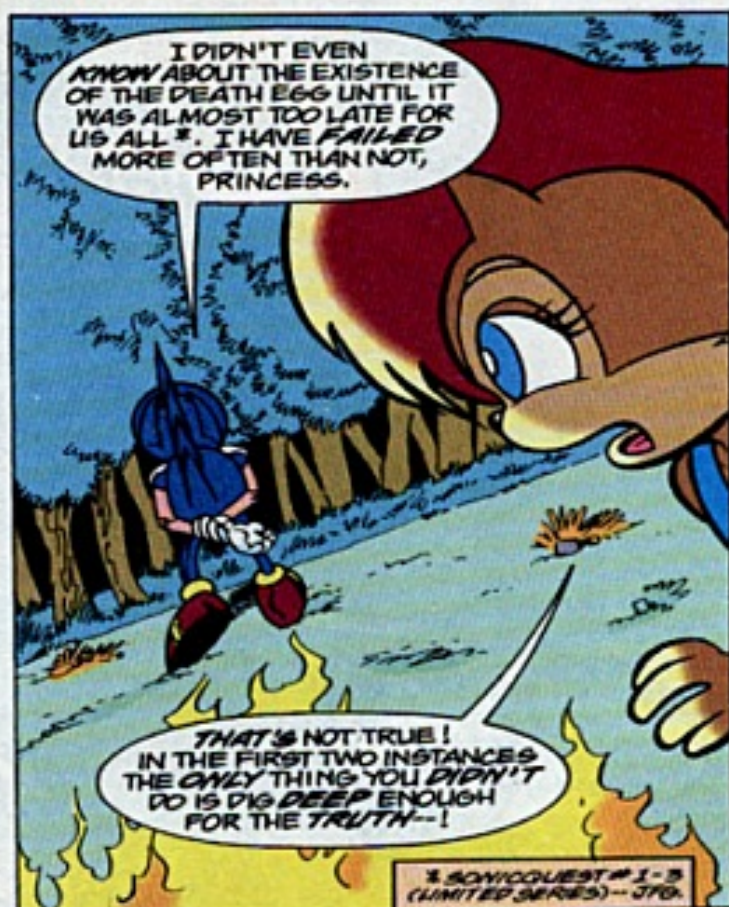
I ONLY
DEMONSTRATED
THEM IN A VAIN
ATTEMPT TO
BOLSTER MY OWN
COURAGE!

...AND YOUR VIDEO
CAMERA EYES ARE A
GREAT ADDITION TO
YOUR ESPIONAGE
ACTIVITIES!

THE TRUTH IS, I'M JUST
ROBOTNIK'S *BNBY*! HE
KNEW MY *GUILT* WOULD
FORCE ME TO *RESIGN*
MY POSITION AS THE
KINGDOM'S SCIENTIFIC
ADVISOR!

"SO I SUPPRESSED MY REMORSE BY TRANS-
FORMING FROM SIR CHARLES, INVENTOR, TO
UNCLE CHUCK, CHILI-DOG PROPRIETOR!"







WHADDYA SAY,
SONIC
THE
HEDGEHOG™

LET'S SHED A
LITTLE LIGHT ON
OUR INTRUDERS!

EASE OFF,
GIRL! I
RECOGNIZE
THEM--



--THEY'RE THE
BAND OF FREEDOM
FIGHTERS KNOWN AS--
THE WOLF PACK!*

LUPE!
GOOD TO SEE
YOU!

GREETINGS, PRINCESS!
I'M GLAD WE STUMBLED ON YOUR
FRIENDLY CAMPSITE AFTER
SUCH A FIERCE BATTLE!

* FIRST SEEN IN
THE ANIMATED
EPISODE "GUY
OF THE WEEK"
J. FREDDY.

A COUNTDOWN TO
ARMAGEDDON

PART TWO

AS THE COVERT GROUP OF
FREEDOM FIGHTERS DETAIL
THEIR RECENT CONFLICT...

--AND ROBOTNIK'S BUILDING A
NEW LINE OF SUPER 'BOTS!

I HOPE THEY'RE
NOT WORSE THAN HIS
COMBOTS!



*LAST SEEN BY
SONIC # 39--
JUSTIN.

DRAGO, DON'T YA
LIKE YER CHILI
DO--ER--CHILI
WIENER?

YES WHAT'S
DISTURBING ME IS
THAT AFTER LEAVING A
DEN OF ROBOTS--



--WE ARE NOW
FEEDING WITH
ONE!

WHAT YA
MEAN?! UNCLE
CHUCK'S ONE
OF US!



REALLY? HOW DO
YOU KNOW HE'S NOT
ROBOTNIK'S SPY?

BECAUSE I SAY
SO, TOUGH GUY!

--AND WHEN
SONIC THE
AMATEUR,
SPEAKS, PEOPLE
LISTEN!



NOW TAKE MY
PROFESSIONAL
ADVICE-- CUT DOWN ON
THE CAMPFIRE BEFORE
YOU ATTRACT THE **ENTIRE**
PLANET!

GEOFFREY
ST. JOHN*, WHAT
ARE YOU DOING
HERE?



I REMEMBER HIM, BECAUSE HE FIRST
APPEARED IN THE PRINCESS SALLY MINI-
SERIES, AND HAS BEEN A PART OF SONIC'S
GIPS SINCE ISSUE #31! --JUSTIN

HELLO,
LUV!



I GUESS YOU COULD SAY
I'VE BEEN DOING A BIT OF
"SLEUTH-ING" BY "POSS-SEDLY"
FOLLOWING CHUCKIE'S
EVERY MOVE!



SOUNDS
MORE LIKE
SPYING TO
ME!

INTERESTING
CHOICE OF WORDS,
MATE--

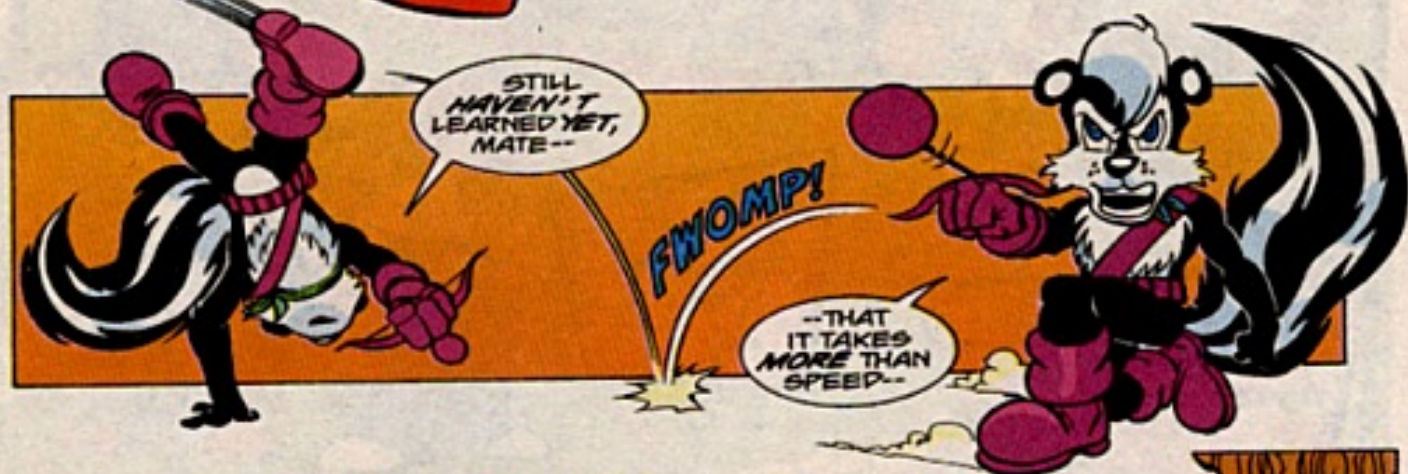
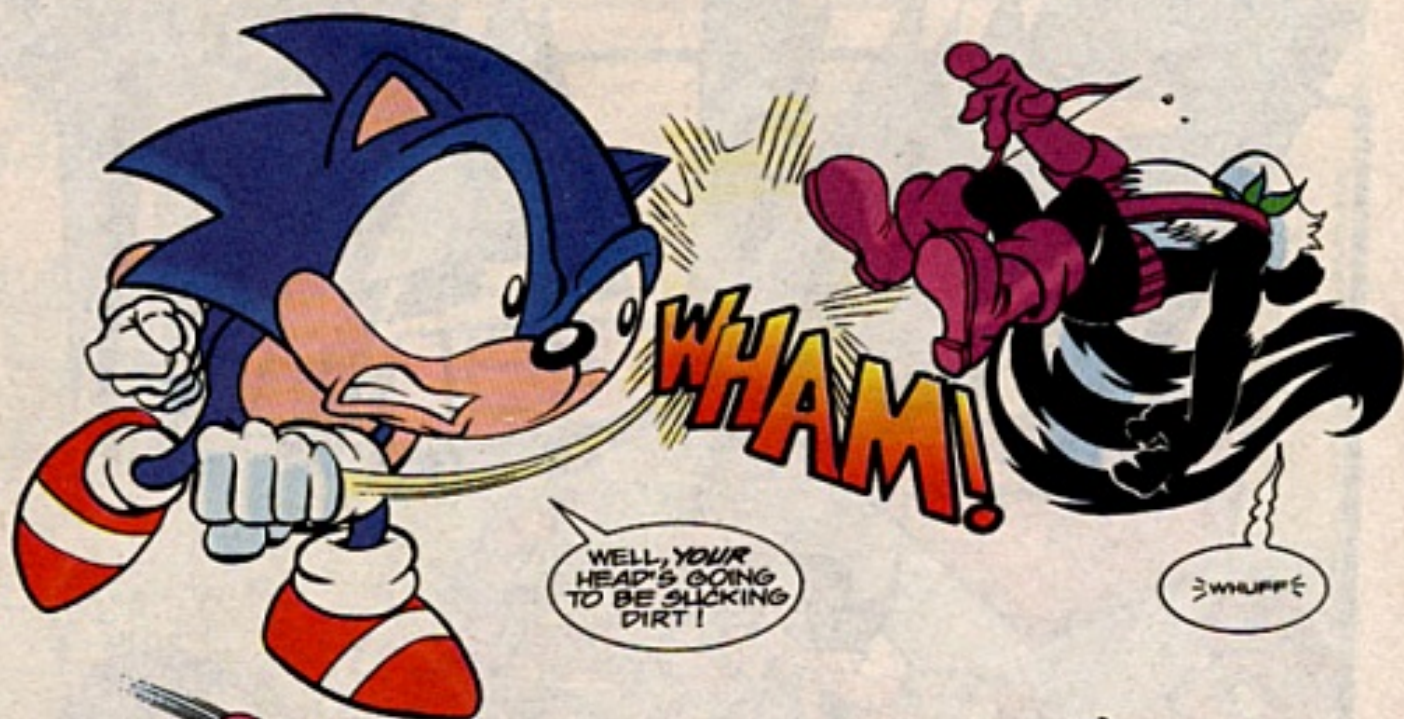


--ESPECIALLY SINCE
THE AGENT WHO UNCOVERED
YOUR VIDEO WAS ONE OF
ROBOTNIK'S SPIES--SLEUTH
DOGGY DOG!

IS THIS
TRUE?







FAN ART

Casey Scheld
Castro Valley, CA.



Matt Burt
Manassas VA.



Mary Dana Palmer
Leesburg, FLA.
Age 11



Mark Marcelo
Age 9



"I'M MEAR
YOUR
DAY!"

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THE "FIND YOUR NAME IN PRINT PAGE"

**THANKS
TO
LETTER-
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AND
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**THANKS
GUYS AND
GALS! KEEP
WRITING IN!**



ACOUNTDOWN TO ARMAGEDDON

PART THREE

THAT EES ENOUGH!

THE 'EDGEHOGS MAY BE ZEE IMBECILE LIKE YOU, BUT EVEN HE DOES NOT DESAIRVE DEATH!

SAVED AND INSULTED IN THE SAME SECOND-- NOW THAT'S SPEED!

THRACK!

WOW! WOTTA PUNCH!

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, MATE? THIS DOESN'T INVOLVE YOU!

MY PROBLEM IS WITH YOU, L'FEW.

I WILL NO LONGER SUBDULE MY DOUBTS ABOUT YOU!

YOU DAIRE TO SAY UNCLE CHUCK IS ZEE TRAITOR?

NO! IT IS YOU WHO ARE ZEE SPY!

HOW CAN THAT BE?











ON A QUEST TO FIND KING ACORN'S MAGIC SWORD,
DESTINY DECREED KNUCKLES WOULD MEET A PALADIN!



LIKE MANY
HISTORIC EXPEDITIONS,
THAT WHICH IS NOT FOUND
BY FORTITUDE...

* KNUX MET SIR
CONNERY LAST
ISSUE! -- J

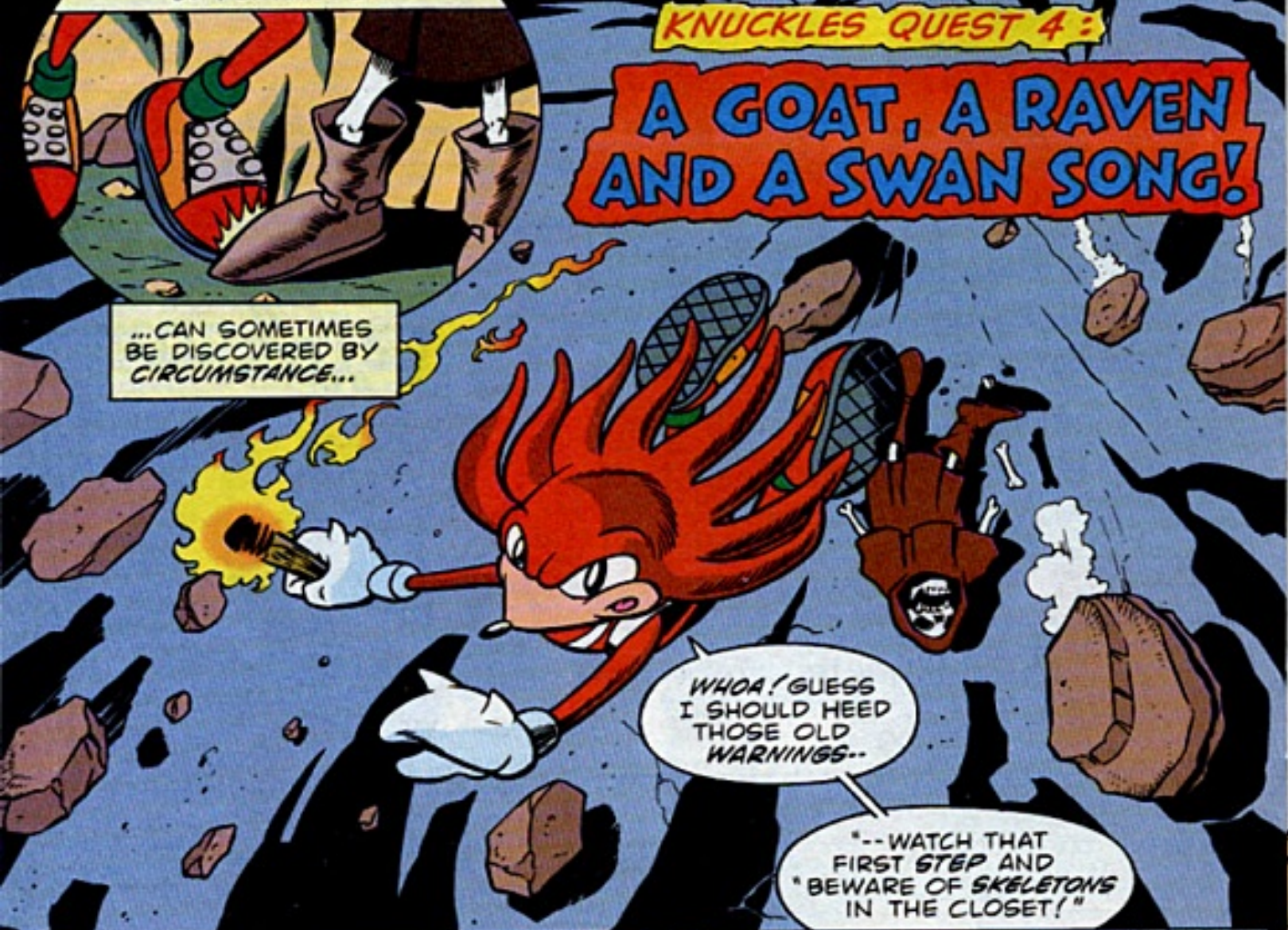
UNRAVELING THE HOLY KNIGHT'S
CRYPTIC CLUES, THE HEROIC
ECHIDNA VAINLY SEARCHES THE
NUMEROUS CAVERNS OF HIS
FLOATING ISLAND HOME.



KNUCKLES QUEST 4:

A GOAT, A RAVEN AND A SWAN SONG!

...CAN SOMETIMES
BE DISCOVERED BY
CIRCUMSTANCE...



WHOA! GUESS
I SHOULD HEED
THOSE OLD
WARNINGS--

--WATCH THAT
FIRST STEP AND
"BEWARE OF SKELETONS
IN THE CLOSET!"

KEN PENDERS & KENT TAYLOR • MANNY SALÁN • BRIAN THOMAS • M. EISMAN • BARRY GROSSMAN
WRITERS PENCILER INKER LETTERER COLORIST

FORTUNATELY,
BEING ABLE TO
GLIDE ALLOWS ME
TO SLOW THE FALL!

UPON LANDING,
KNUCKLES BEGINS
TO EXPLORE THIS
LOWER CAVERN...

TRAVELING DOWN THE
DAMP, FUNGUS ENCRUSTED
CAVERN BANK, THE
ENTERPRISING ECHIDNA
ENCOUNTERS A HORRIFIC
STENCH...

TOO BAD MY
BUDDY CAN'T DO
THE SAME!

SMASH!

KRAAK!

HMM -- THESE
MARKINGS LOOK
LIKE ANCIENT MYSTIC
RUNES -- MAYBE I'M
FINALLY ONTO
SOMETHING!

...WHOSE INCREASING INTENSITY ACTS LIKE A HOMING
BEACON, ULTIMATELY FURNISHING A VANTAGE POINT!

WEIRD SMELL PLUS
WEIRD CHANTING
EQUALS WEIRD
DUDES...

O'WEI O'WEI

... AND THOSE WEIRDOS LOOK LIKE
THE WIZARD AND ALCHEMIST THE ANCIENT
WALKERS' WARNED ME ABOUT! *

* BACK IN SONIC #42 -- J

"BASED ON WHERE I FOUND
THEM, I'LL BET THEY'RE
ALSO-- MATHIAS POE AND
DAMOCLES THE ELDER!"

THAT REFLECTION IS SHORT-LIVED,
AS THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCE THAT
BROUGHT KNUCKLES HERE ALSO
COMPROMISES HIS STRATEGIC POSITION

TIME FOR A LITTLE
SUR-PRIZE ATT--

WHOA!

WHAT?! WHO DARES INVAD
THE SANCTUM OF
MATHIAS POE?

OUCH!

GUARDIAN OF
THE FLOATING
ISLAND WOULD
NORMALLY DO...

BUMP!

-- BUT RIGHT NOW I
THINK I'M "OWNER OF
THE BROKEN TUSH!"

AND SO SHALL
THE REST OF
YOU FOLLOW!

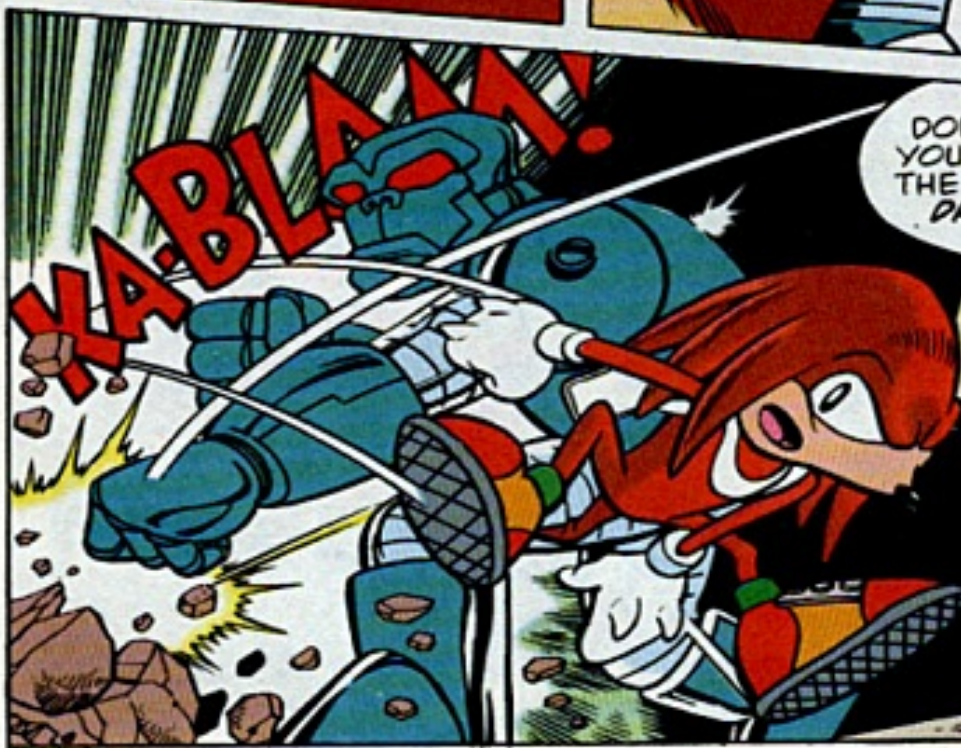
BY THE
POTIONS OF
POE, DIRECTION
OF DAMOCLES
AND HERBS OF
THIS KETTLE--

-- I BRING
FORTH A GOLEM
MADE OF METAL!

CRİK!

CRANK!

CLOSHK!



DON'T YOU THINK
YOU OUGHTA LEAVE
THE 'BOT MAKING TO
DR. ROBOTNIK?





HAHAHAHAHA

ROASTED
RAVEN--
EVERYONE'S
FAVORITE!

RRRRKKK!

AAH

ARRKK!

HEY! LOOKS
LIKE THE BIG LUG
STRIPPED A GEAR!

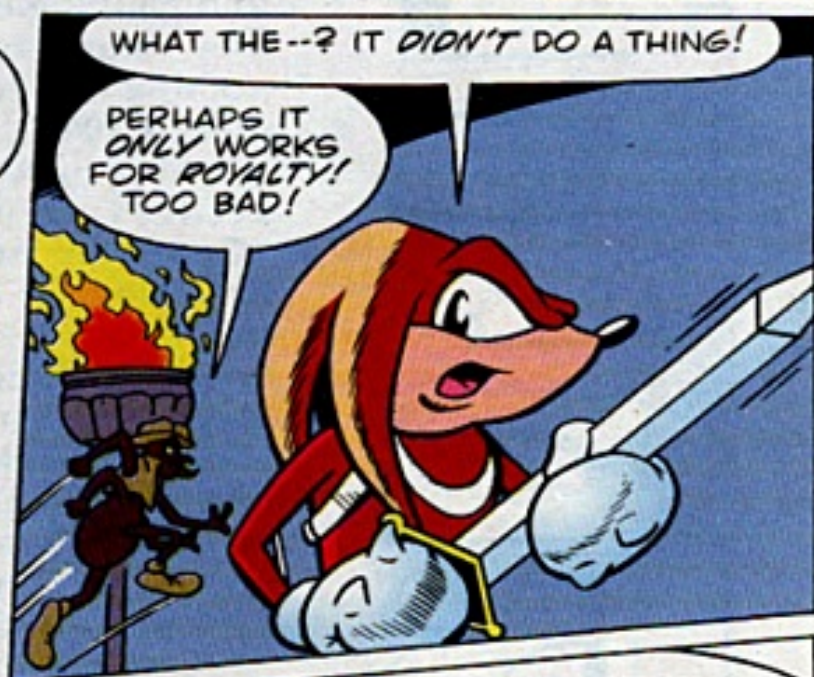
HE'S
VULNERABLE
NOW! TERMINATE
HIM!

HASTA LA
VISTA, IRON
PANTS!

CREEK
KRONIK

GOOD THING FOR YOU
I'M UP ON MAGICAL LORE
AND HITCHED A RIDE IN
YOUR BACKPACK TO
SAVE YOUR BUTT!

THANKS, "TEACH",
BUT WHAT DID YOU
DO TO THIS DUMMY?
HE'S NOT MOVING!



SONIC-GRAMS

THIS JUST IN!

J. Freddy Gabrie
Editor

THIS IS IT! THE ULTIMATE BATTLE BEGINS NEXT ISSUE!

Whatever you do, do not miss **SONIC #47!** "End Game," the four-part series within a series, begins the roller-coaster ride into **SONIC'S 50th anniversary issue The King of Acorns** is healthy once more and wants to finish off the war against **Robotnik** once and for all. He will stop at nothing to regain the kingdom! The stakes are higher than they've ever been before. Before this issue is over, nothing will ever be the same again! On sale **early March 1997!**

Also in two weeks: **KNUCKLES: THE DARK LEGION #2 (OF 3)!** It's not that easy being the "Guardian of The Floating Island." Just ask **Knuckles**. Of course, he's a little detained at the moment. He's fighting off this nasty group of **Enerjak's** disciples calling themselves "**The Dark Legion!**" What do they want? Not much... just the **Chaos Emerald** and **The Floating Island!** And if they can't have it, **NO ONE CAN!!!** Including never before scenes of **The Echidnas' history!** The second in the **triple-combo cover collection.** Check it out! On sale **late February 1997!**

Last but not least, an up-coming 48-page special of "mammoth" proportions! "**KnucklesQuest**" is over but the saga of the **Sword of Acorns** is not. **Mammoth Mogul** wants it. He wants it bad. Devising a plan that will keep **Knuckles** and **The Chaotix** from delivering the sword to **Princess Sally** and **The Freedom Fighters**, isn't that much of a problem when you know what their weaknesses are. That's what being a villain is all about. It is a tale we could only call "**SONIC VS. KNUCKLES: BATTLE ROYAL!!!**" On sale in **late April 1997**

P.S.: The writers would like to thank **Ron Bauerle** for his reference help this issue.

Freddy

SEND LETTERS TO:
SONIC-GRAMS #46
C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419
email address: Benny7Dude@aol.com

SPECIAL NOTE: **SONIC WRITER/ARTIST** Ken Penders will be making an appearance at the **Motor City ComicCon** in **Detroit, MI** between **March 21 to 23!**



Dear Sonic,

I think you are the best Freedom Fighter for the job of commander now that SONIC #40 is out (don't tell Antoine I said that). My collection now includes every Sonic comic since issue #21 including specials and mini-series! I have a few questions: 1) Is Sally 14 or 15 years old? 2) Will the power stones ever be used in the comic? 3) Who painted the "Robotnik Rules" pin-up in MECHA MADNESS Special #1?

Jacob "Dr. J" Ritter
Columbus, NE

What's happening, Dr. J? As you see, too much is happening around here. My head is spinning almost as fast as my feet. As far as Antoine goes, since when have I ever told him any-

thing. Now on to questions: 1) Here's the age line up for the core group of Freedom Fighters once and for all: Sonic (15), Sally (15), Bunnie (14), Antoine (18 - yeah, he's older... and he's still a dork), Rotor (16), Tails (10). Get it? Got it? Good!; 2) Maybe.; 3) Rich Koslowski painted that masterpiece. Glad you liked it.

Dear Sonic,

Yo, what's up? I really like you ... you're cool! I think you're really brave since all this mecha/court martial stuff has been happening to you. I know you'll survive it. Question time: 1) What's up with Knuckles? Does he drink too much coffee? 2) Is Antoine jealous of Sonic or what? 3) Where did Ivo come from? 4) How did Tails get two tails?

Brandon Hutchinson
Cumberland City, TN

My man, Brandon thinks I'm cool. He's right, you know. Answer time: 1) He is way, way uptight for his own good. I'm glad you noticed, too.; 2) Who isn't?; 3) Check out my fiftieth issue for the answer to that one.; 4) Why does the sun rise in the morning? Who knows? I don't. All I know is he was born that way just like I was born to juice speed-wise!

Sonic-Grams gang,

Highly-Ho, good Freedom-Fighting neighbors! The other day, I updated my recently-started collection of "SONIC THE HEDGEHOG" comics. As I was going through my issues, I noticed #39 was missing. Being sort of a traveler, especially near the end of the month, I usually pick up the latest issue. Of course, this time around I got #40 instead. Did I miss a special issue or something? Help.

Jesse "The Traveler" Shearer
Sioux Falls, SD

In a nut shell, Sonic #39 had yours truly fall into the hands of Nack the Weasel who in turn sold me to Robotnik. He had me roboticized to destroy Knothole village. He almost won, too, but Princess Sally had a better idea. In MECHA MADNESS #1, she had Knuckles roboticized to stop me... and it worked. We were both de-roboticized but neither of us were very happy. Both issues were beautifully drawn by our cover artist, SPAZ! Look at the last page to see how to order. Now that's the way a 30-second commercial should sound!



Hey Sonic-Grams,

I'd like to say that I think the comics are great! Keep up the good work! My favorite characters are Bunnie and Amy Rose. Question: Is there going to be a story about how Tails joined up with The Freedom Fighters soon? I hope so. Have fun. Stay cool. (And watch Snively he's planning something!) Come and explore the web sometime!

Kate O'Neil
smoneil@pcix.com

Thanx! Hey, how come I'm not part of your list of favorites. Well, Bunnie and Amy are cool, especially Amy since she's a hedgehog, too. We don't have a Tails origin slated for print yet but we will one day soon.

Having fun and staying cool are easy. Tell me to do something that's really hard to do (except clean Robotnik's shoes). As far as your Snively warning... is that foreshadowing or what? Hasta' later, dudes!